

"PATENT"

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of
Dakka, et al.

§ Before the Examiner:
§ Not Yet Assigned
§

PCT/EP 99/03998
Int'l Filing Date: June 8, 1999

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§ Group Art Unit Number: Not Yet Assigned
§

Filed: Herewith

§ Attorney Docket No.: 98M034
§

For: Oxidation Process

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Honorable Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks
Washington, D.C. 20231

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Dear Sir:

Attached please find our application, ready for examination before the United States Patent and Trademark Office.

Enclosed are the following documents:

- (1) a copy of the International Application as filed; and
- (2) a "substitute" application substituted for the International Application with amended pages.

Please examine the "substituted" application rather than the original filed application. The "substituted" specification contains amendments to conform the claims to U.S. practice. No new matter has been added to the substituted application.

In addition prior to examination on the merits, please amend the above-identified patent application as follows: